for RRBs were opened during the year 1992-93 in the States of Rajasthan (two branches) Madhya Pradesh (one branch) and Maharashtra (one branch). RBI has further reported that during financial year 1993-94 Sri Rama Grameena Bank, Nizamabad, Andhra Pradesh has been allowed to open 8 branches in the State at Edgi, Hegdoli, Piopri, Velgatoor, Armoor, Banswada, Bodhan and Kamareddy.

There is no proposal at present to open more branches in Gujarat.

Bank Branches in Gujarat

6432. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open more branches of Commercial Banks in the country and particularly in Gujarat State during the year 1994-95 to promote trade and commerce in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the locations;

(c) the time by which these branches are likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (d) Under the Branch Expansion Policy 1990-95, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not fixed any year-wise targets for opening bank branches. Out of the 264 rural centres allotted under the extant policy to commercial banks in the country, 54 centres have been allotted in Gujarat. As regards semi-urban centres, a total of 1285 such centres have been allotted to commercial banks in the country. Banks are free to open branches at semi-urban centres within the quota allotted to them on all India basis. So far, banks have identified 32 semi-urban centres in Gujarat for opening their branches. In respect of urban/metropolitan/port town centres, 978 centres have been allotted to banks in the country. 65 centres out of them have been allotted in Gujarat the details of which are furnished in the Annexure [*See* Apppendix 170, Annexure No. 133]. The opening of branches at the allotted centres is subject to availability of basic infrastructure facilities like availability of suitable premises, all weather roads, telecommunications, etc.

Bank Advances to Sick Units

6433. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Bank advances provided to units which have become sick and have been referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction and the number of such units during the last three years;

(b) the total amount of advance given to sick units which has been written off under the Rehabilitation Scheme, by the Banks so far; and

(c) the total amount of advances given by the banks under rehabilitation scheme of sick units for approved schemes by BIFR and the number of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) The data reporting system of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not generate the information in the manner asked for. Specific information regarding units which have become sick and referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) is also not available. However, RBI has reported that based on the half-yearly returns received from banks the number of Non-SSI sick units and their